

BILL NO. 95-64

COUNTY COUNCIL  
OF  
HARFORD COUNTY, MARYLAND

BILL NO. 95-64

Council President Parrott  
Introduced by at the request of the County Executive  
Legislative Day No. 95-27 Date September 19, 1995

AN ACT to add new Article XIV, Harford County Community Mediation Commission, to Part 2, Nonbinding Advisory Boards, of Chapter 9, Boards, Commissions, Councils and Agencies, of the Harford County Code, as amended, to establish a Harford County Community Mediation Commission, to establish the membership of the Commission, to establish the duties of the Commission, to impose certain requirements on the Commission, to provide for a Mediation Coordinator, and generally relating to the powers and duties of the Commission.

By the Council, September 19, 1995  
Introduced, read first time, ordered posted and public hearing scheduled  
on: October 17, 1995  
at: 6:00 p.m.  
By Order: *Josephine*, Secretary

PUBLIC HEARING

Having been posted and notice of time and place of hearing and title of Bill having been published according to the Charter, a public hearing was held on October 17, 1995, and concluded on October 17, 1995

*Josephine*, Secretary

EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW. [Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law. Underlining indicates language added to Bill by amendment. Language lined through indicates matter stricken out of Bill by amendment.

BILL NO. 95-64

1 Section 1. Be It Enacted By The County Council of Harford County,  
2 Maryland, That new Article XIV, Harford County Community Mediation  
3 Commission, be and it is hereby added to Part 2, Nonbinding  
4 Advisory Boards, of Chapter 9, Boards, Commissions, Councils and  
5 Agencies, of the Harford County Code, as amended, to read as  
6 follows:

7 Chapter 9. Boards, Commissions, Councils and Agencies

8 Part 2. Nonbinding Advisory Boards.

9 ARTICLE XIV. HARFORD COUNTY COMMUNITY MEDIATION COMMISSION

10 SECTION 9-87. CREATION; PURPOSE.

11 THE HARFORD COUNTY COMMUNITY MEDIATION COMMISSION IS HEREBY  
12 ESTABLISHED FOR THE PURPOSE OF PROVIDING CITIZENS WITH AN EFFECTIVE  
13 AND EFFICIENT MEANS TO RESOLVE DISPUTES THROUGH MEDIATION. SUCH  
14 MEDIATION PROGRAM SHALL BE VOLUNTARY AND SHALL NOT PRECLUDE ANY  
15 PARTY FROM SEEKING REDRESS THROUGH THE COURT SYSTEM.

16 SECTION 9-88. MEMBERSHIP.

17 EXCEPT AS PROVIDED IN SUBSECTIONS I AND O OF THIS SECTION,  
18 MEMBERS OF THE HARFORD COUNTY COMMUNITY MEDIATION COMMISSION SHALL  
19 BE APPOINTED BY THE COUNTY EXECUTIVE AND CONFIRMED BY THE COUNTY  
20 COUNCIL IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE CHARTER OF HARFORD COUNTY. THE  
21 COMMISSION SHALL CONSIST OF THE FOLLOWING MEMBERS:

22 A. THE STATE'S ATTORNEY OR HIS/HER DESIGNEE.

23 B. THE PUBLIC DEFENDER OR HIS/HER DESIGNEE.

24 C. A JUDGE OF THE DISTRICT COURT (AS DESIGNATED BY THE  
25 ADMINISTRATIVE JUDGE).

26 D. A JUDGE OF THE CIRCUIT COURT (AS DESIGNATED BY THE  
27 ADMINISTRATIVE JUDGE).

1 E. THE SUPERVISING ATTORNEY OF THE LEGAL AID BUREAU OR  
2 HIS/HER DESIGNEE.

3 F. A REPRESENTATIVE OF THE HUMAN RELATIONS OFFICE.

4 G. THE DIRECTOR OF THE DEPARTMENT OF COMMUNITY SERVICES OR  
5 HIS/HER DESIGNEE.

6 H. A REPRESENTATIVE OF THE BOARD OF EDUCATION.

7 I. A MEMBER OF THE COUNTY COUNCIL.

8 J. A REPRESENTATIVE OF A HARFORD COUNTY LAW ENFORCEMENT  
9 AGENCY (AS SELECTED BY THE HARFORD COUNTY POLICE COMMISSION).

10 K. THE DIRECTOR OF THE LOCAL DEPARTMENT OF JUVENILE JUSTICE  
11 OR HIS/HER DESIGNEE.

12 L. THE DIRECTOR OF SOCIAL SERVICES OR HIS/HER DESIGNEE.

13 M. A REPRESENTATIVE OF HARFORD COMMUNITY COLLEGE.

14 N. A CITIZEN REPRESENTATIVE APPOINTED BY THE COUNTY  
15 EXECUTIVE.

16 O. A CITIZEN REPRESENTATIVE APPOINTED BY THE COUNTY COUNCIL.  
17 SECTION 9-89. OFFICERS; QUORUM.

18 THE COUNTY EXECUTIVE SHALL APPOINT ANNUALLY A CHAIRPERSON AND  
19 VICE-CHAIRPERSON. THE CHAIRPERSON SHALL PRESIDE OVER ALL MEETINGS  
20 OF THE COMMISSION. IN THE ABSENCE OF THE CHAIRPERSON, THE VICE-  
21 CHAIRPERSON SHALL PRESIDE. A QUORUM SHALL CONSIST OF EIGHT  
22 MEMBERS.

23 SECTION 9-90. TERMS OF OFFICE.

24 WITH THE EXCEPTION OF THE LAW ENFORCEMENT REPRESENTATIVE, ALL  
25 MEMBERS SHALL SERVE TERMS COTERMINOUS WITH THE TERM OF THE COUNTY  
26 EXECUTIVE. THE LAW ENFORCEMENT REPRESENTATIVE SHALL SERVE A TERM

1 OF ONE YEAR, AND FOR EACH YEAR THEREAFTER, THE HARFORD COUNTY  
2 POLICE COMMISSION MAY EITHER REAPPOINT THE REPRESENTATIVE OR MAY  
3 SELECT A REPRESENTATIVE FROM ANOTHER LOCAL LAW ENFORCEMENT AGENCY  
4 TO SERVE ON THE COMMISSION.

5 SECTION 9-91. POWERS AND DUTIES.

6 THE HARFORD COUNTY COMMUNITY MEDIATION COMMISSION SHALL:

7 A. ESTABLISH AND MAINTAIN A VOLUNTARY MEDIATION SERVICE FOR  
8 THE CITIZENS OF HARFORD COUNTY.

9 B. PROMOTE THE MEDIATION PROCESS AND THE PARTICIPATION OF  
10 ORGANIZATIONS AND INDIVIDUALS IN THE COUNTY IN THE MEDIATION  
11 PROCESS.

12 C. ADOPT RULES AND PROCEDURES FOR THE ADMINISTRATION OF THE  
13 MEDIATION SERVICES.

14 D. MEET WITH THE MEDIATION COORDINATOR AND OTHERS AS MAY BE  
15 NECESSARY.

16 E. REPORT ANNUALLY TO THE COUNTY EXECUTIVE AND THE COUNTY  
17 COUNCIL AS TO THE UTILIZATION AND EFFECTIVENESS OF THE MEDIATION  
18 PROGRAM.

19 SECTION 9-92. MEDIATION COORDINATOR; FUNCTIONS.

20 THERE SHALL BE A MEDIATION COORDINATOR DESIGNATED BY THE  
21 COUNTY EXECUTIVE AS RECOMMENDED BY THE COMMISSION.

22 A. THE COORDINATOR SHALL:

23 (1) DEVELOP AND MAINTAIN A LIST OF MEDIATORS.

24 (2) ACT AS PROCESSOR FOR MEDIATION REQUESTS.

25 (3) ASSIGN MEDIATORS TO THE CASES.

26 (4) EVALUATE MEDIATORS.

- 1 (5) DEVELOP A BUDGET AS NECESSARY.
- 2 (6) ACT AS LIAISON WITH GOVERNMENT AGENCIES.
- 3 (7) LOCATE FACILITIES FOR MEDIATION SESSIONS.
- 4 (8) COORDINATE TRAINING FOR MEDIATORS.
- 5 (9) MAINTAIN APPROPRIATE DATA AND RECORDS REGARDING THE
- 6 MEDIATION PROGRAM.
- 7 (10) REPORT TO THE HARFORD COUNTY COMMUNITY MEDIATION
- 8 COMMISSION AT LEAST SEMI-ANNUALLY TO REVIEW THE MEDIATION PROGRAM.
- 9 (11) PERFORM OTHER DUTIES AS DELEGATED BY THE COMMISSION.

10 B. THE COUNTY EXECUTIVE SHALL DESIGNATE APPROPRIATE STAFF AS

11 NECESSARY TO SUPPORT THE MISSION OF THE MEDIATION COORDINATOR.

12 Section 2. And Be It Further Enacted, That this Act shall take

13 effect 60 calendar days from the date it becomes law.

14 EFFECTIVE: December 19, 1995

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*The Secretary of the Council does  
hereby certify that fifteen (15) copies of  
this Bill are immediately available for  
distribution to the public and the press.*

*Joe Pindak*  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Secretary

HARFORD COUNTY BILL NO. 95-64(Brief Title) Establish Mediation Commission

is herewith submitted to the County Council of Harford County for enrollment as being the text as finally passed.

CERTIFIED TRUE AND CORRECT

ENROLLED

[Signature]  
Secretary of the Council

[Signature]  
President of the Council

Date 10/17/95Date 10/17/95

BY THE COUNCIL

Read the third time.

Passed: LSD 95-30 (October 17, 1995)

Failed of Passage: \_\_\_\_\_

By Order

[Signature]  
Secretary

Sealed with the County Seal and presented to the County Executive for approval this 19th day of October, 1995 at 3:00 p.m.

[Signature]  
Secretary

BY THE EXECUTIVE

[Signature]  
COUNTY EXECUTIVE

APPROVED: Date October 20, 1995

BY THE COUNCIL

This Bill (No. 95-64), having been approved by the Executive and returned to the Council, becomes law on October 20, 1995.

[Signature]  
Secretary

EFFECTIVE DATE: December 19, 1995